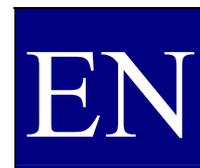




**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Brussels, 29 May 2004
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**2nd EU TROIKA-MEXICO SUMMIT
Guadalajara, Mexico, 29 May 2004**

Joint Communiqué

The II Summit between Mexico and the EU was held in Guadalajara, Mexico, on May 29th, 2004, in the occasion of the III LAC-EU Summit. Mexico was represented by President Vicente Fox Quesada, who was assisted by the Foreign Affairs Minister, Luis Ernesto Derbez. The EU was represented by the Presidency of the European Council, headed by Ireland's Prime Minister, Bertie Ahern, and the President of the European Commission, Mr. Romano Prodi.

1. The EU and Mexico expressed satisfaction with the positive results of this Summit and its contribution to consolidate a stronger and more comprehensive relationship between Mexico and the EU. They reviewed developments since their last Summit held in Madrid on May 18th, 2002, and expressed their determination to expand and deepen Mexico-EU relationship in all areas to further enhance its development.
2. They proceeded to an extensive evaluation of the results of the Economic Partnership, Political Co-ordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Mexico, three years after its entry into force.

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3. On political dialogue, they reiterated their commitment to enhance their political cooperation and to reinforce their partnership in order to deepen and strengthen their relationship on issues of mutual interest on the global agenda.

4. Mexico and the European Union agreed to promote initiatives towards the revitalizing, strengthening, increased democratization, and transparency within the different bodies of the UN System. In this regard, both parties agreed on the need to strengthen the role of the General Assembly so its work reflects the current priorities of the international community and that it can effectively, and to the fullest extent, accomplish the functions entrusted to it by the UN Charter. They also underlined their support for the Open-Ended Working Group established by the General Assembly and for the initiative of the UN Secretary General to establish a High Level Panel on Threats, Challenges and Change.

5. Leaders underlined that the problems of poverty, inequality and social exclusion are major obstacles for the construction of strong societies and expressed their firm commitment to jointly work for their eradication.

6. They reaffirmed their commitment with the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms as universal values. They expressed their full support for the continued development of human rights standards, for the strengthening of the international system of human rights protection and for the full involvement of civil society in these efforts. They expressed their commitment to intensify their cooperation on this matter, bilaterally and in the multilateral fora and to promote peace and stability all over the world.

7. The EU and Mexico expressed their strong commitment to the universal abolition of the death penalty and the rapid ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute for the ICC. The EU and Mexico believe in particular that the efficiency, independence and impartiality displayed by the Court during its start-up phase will have a positive impact on the decision of non-State Parties to adhere to the Rome Statute. Therefore, the EU recognized the efforts of the Mexican government to ratify the Rome Statute and expressed its hope for the early ratification of the ICC Statute by Mexico.

8. The EU and Mexico reaffirmed their conviction that a multilateralist approach to security and disarmament provides the means to maintain international order. Mexico and the European Union prioritized the promotion of concrete progress in disarmament under strict and effective international control, with emphasis on nuclear disarmament and other weapons of mass destruction, including chemical and biological weapons.

9. They recognized that terrorism undermines the foundations of civilized coexistence among nations and represents a serious threat to international peace and security. They condemned terrorism in all its forms, wherever it occurs and regardless of its motives, and pledge to do everything within their power to combat it in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Charter and the obligations set out under the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1373(2001). Both parties insisted on the obligation of the States to guarantee that any measure they adopt to fight terrorism must be implemented in full respect for International Law, particularly in the fields of human rights, refugees and humanitarian Law.

10. In order to intensify the dialogue already initiated, Mexico and the EU recommended meetings at Senior Officials level in the context of the Joint Committee to review progress made in the Mexico-EU relationship and propose ways to improve it. They also recommended continued contacts at working level on issues of the bilateral and multilateral agenda of mutual interest.

11. They recalled the recent historic enlargement of the European Union that took place on May 1st, 2004 when large parts of Eastern and Western Europe were reunited in peace and democracy. It was pointed out that the benefits of this process would contribute to the prosperity of the whole world, not only politically, in terms of enhanced stability, but economically, through a reinforced growth in a wider single market. President Fox expressed his recognition for this major accomplishment and formulated his best wishes for its longstanding success.

12. Mexico acknowledged that the European Union constitutes its second largest trading partner, as well as its second largest source of foreign investment. Since the entry into force of the Association Agreement, bilateral trade has increased by 39% and European investment in Mexico has grown by 15 billion dollars. Nevertheless, both parties stated that economic relations could and should increase further in the coming years, so as to reflect the real potential of commercial and investment relations between Mexico and the 25 members of the EU.

13. The EU and Mexico welcomed the adaptations made to the Association Agreement, which guaranteed that from May 1st 2004, the rights and obligations under the Agreement apply to the ten new members of the EU, so as to expand the preferential treatment accorded to Mexican products to the enlarged EU and viceversa, without affecting the existing trade relations between Mexico and the EU member states of recent accession.

14. They also evaluated the cooperation chapter and congratulated themselves for the progress made in the first three years in the implementation of the Mexico-EU Association Agreement. In particular, they highlighted the signing of key instruments for the planning, development and facilitation of Mexico-EU bilateral cooperation, such as the Financial Framework Agreement, signed on May 13th, 2002; the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the pluri-annual orientations for the cooperation 2002-2006, signed in October 3rd, 2002; and the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, signed in February 3rd, 2004. Both parties recognized the importance of these instruments for (i) the establishment of procedures and mechanisms of coordination for the bilateral cooperation, (ii) the identification of the priority areas, (iii) the formulation and elaboration of the projects, and (iv) the establishment of clear rules for the practical execution of the cooperation projects in Mexico.

15. Mexico and the EU made special reference to the convenience of an effective use of the Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation. They urged those responsible for cooperation on both sides to design a bilateral programme in order to promote this instrument, and to establish the bilateral Cooperation Steering Committee.

16. The EU and Mexico consider that satellite navigation has the potential to bring numerous benefits to users worldwide and undertook to evaluate the possibility of closer cooperation with the European Satellite Navigation System.

17. Mexico reiterated its interest in signing further sectorial agreements established in the Association Agreement, particularly in the fields of Higher Education and Environment.

18. The Leaders underlined the importance of the signing of different projects in the framework of the bilateral orientations 2002-2006, in the fields of social development and justice administration, and also expressed their satisfaction for the progress made in the definition of a bilateral project on science and technology. In particular, Mexico and the EU highlighted the opportunities brought by the recent launching, on May 24th, 2004, of the Comprehensive Programme for Small and Medium Enterprises. In this context, Mexico and the European Commission stressed the importance of the full use of the financial resources programmed in the orientations 2002-2006, and committed themselves to present and evaluate, as soon as possible, further projects.